

**36-28-101. Title.**

This chapter is known as the "Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission."

Enacted by Chapter 150, 2014 General Session

**36-28-102. Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission -- Creation -- Membership -- Chairs -- Terms -- Per diem and expenses.**

- (1) There is created the Veterans' and Military Affairs Commission.
- (2) The commission membership is composed of 19 permanent members, but may not exceed 23 members, and is as follows:
  - (a) five legislative members to be appointed as follows:
    - (i) three members from the House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, no more than two of whom may be from the same political party; and
    - (ii) two members from the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate, no more than one of whom may be from the same political party;
  - (b) the executive director of the Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs or the director's designee;
  - (c) the chair of the Utah Veterans' Advisory Council;
  - (d) the executive director of the Department of Workforce Services or the director's designee;
  - (e) the executive director of the Department of Health or the director's designee;
  - (f) the executive director of the Department of Human Services or the director's designee;
  - (g) a representative from the Administrative Office of the Courts who is knowledgeable in court services appointed by the Judicial Council;
  - (h) a representative from the Utah National Guard appointed by the adjutant general;
  - (i) Guard and Reserve Transition Assistance Advisor; and
  - (j) a representative from the Board of Regents;
  - (k) three representatives of veteran service organizations as recommended by the Veterans Advisory Council;
  - (l) one representative from the Utah Defense Alliance; and
  - (m) one military affairs representative from a chamber of commerce recommended by the Utah State Chamber of Commerce.
- (3) The commission may appoint by majority vote of the entire commission up to four representatives of state and local government agencies or interest groups the commission feels necessary to complete its duties.
- (4)
  - (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed under Subsection (2)(a) as a cochair of the commission.
  - (b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House of Representatives appointed under Subsection (2)(a) as a cochair of the commission.
- (5) A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. The action of a majority of a quorum constitutes the action of the commission.
- (6) The term for each commission member appointed in accordance with

Subsection (3) shall be two years from the date of appointment. A member may not serve more than three terms.

(7) If a member leaves office or is unable to serve, the vacancy shall be filled as it was originally appointed. A person appointed to fill a vacancy under this section does not serve the remaining unexpired term of the member being replaced but begins serving a new term.

(8) A member may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service but may receive per diem and travel expenses in accordance with:

- (a) Section 63A-3-106;
- (b) Section 63A-3-107; and
- (c) rules made by the Division of Finance pursuant to Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.

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**36-28-103. Duties.**

The commission shall:

- (1) comply with the rules of legislative interim committees;
- (2) study and make recommendations to the Legislature on the following issues as they impact active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their dependents:

- (a) reintegration from military to civilian status;
- (b) employment;
- (c) finances;
- (d) education;
- (e) health and mental health, including suicide prevention;
- (f) military affairs, including the impact of military bases; and
- (g) coordination of state and local government resources to assist active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their dependents; and

- (3) consider the unique role of the Utah National Guard and its servicemembers in regard to the issues in Subsection (2).

Enacted by Chapter 150, 2014 General Session

**36-28-104. Staff support.**

The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall staff the commission.

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